

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 717

By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend J.W. Green for
meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is J.W. Green, who honorably served this country as a Third Class Petty Officer Coxswain in the United States Navy during World War II and has become renowned as a skilled fiddle maker; and

WHEREAS, throughout his long professional career, Mr. Green has served with acumen and alacrity and has earned the respect of his peers for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, a native of Louisiana, J.W. Green first worked in the oil fields of his home state as a pipe fitter; and

WHEREAS, at nineteen years of age, he enlisted in the United States Navy during World War II; and

WHEREAS, after basic training in San Francisco, J.W. Green served with great bravery and ability, piloting ships that transported men and supplies in support of the Allied efforts in the Pacific Theater, including the liberation of the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, during a mission in the Admiralty Islands on November 9, 1944, Mr. Green endured the explosion of the USS *Mount Hood*, in which 3,800 tons of ammunition detonated and killed hundreds of crewmen and damaged numerous other ships; and

WHEREAS, after leaving the United States Navy in 1946, J.W. Green returned to Louisiana and the pipe fitting profession, eventually becoming an industrial construction job superintendent involved in the building of refineries, nuclear power plants, and chemical plants;

he later worked for Daniel's Construction Company on the American Enka Plant for twenty years before assisting in the construction of the City of Tanajib in Saudi Arabia; and

WHEREAS, a talented craftsman, Mr. Green has become an exceptional fiddle maker since he built his first in 1974, before ever playing the instrument; and

WHEREAS, laboring for more than 180 hours on each fiddle, J.W. Green has built and sold approximately 132 of his handmade instruments, which produce a sound so fine that their exquisite tones can be heard in many noted venues, including symphony orchestras and the Smithville National Playoffs bluegrass fiddlers competition; and

WHEREAS, in evidence of his compendious fiddle-making skill and knowledge, Mr. Green also makes left-hand fiddles and five string fiddles is one of only few individuals who can repair fiddles; and

WHEREAS, J.W. Green also cleverly created a power equilibrator machine to assist with the seasoning of his fiddles, so that his customers could immediately receive the best quality sound from the instrument; and

WHEREAS, an adept musician himself, Mr. Green masterfully plays the guitar, the mandolin, and the piano in a variety of genres; as a boy he was featured on a Texas radio station, playing with a live country band; and

WHEREAS, J.W. Green is perhaps most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife of more than sixty years, Dorothy, and their four children; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Green epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud J.W. Green for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend J.W. Green for his meritorious service to the State of Tennessee, thanking him for his valiant efforts to protect our nation during World

War II and applauding his dedication to creating some of the world's finest fiddles, even as we extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.